

VILLAGE OF BARODA
Council Meeting Minutes
Baroda Municipal Building
May 7, 2018
6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Bob Getz, Don Turney, Milt Sluder, Ed Rath, Steve Jasper, Larry Nye, Mona Himmelein and Clerk Boehm

Guests Present: Rick Ast, Greta Hurst, John Schmidke, Kelly Clark, Ross Rogien, Doreen Schultz, Anthony Cochran

Public Hearing – USDA loan/grant work – Steve Carlisle from Whitman & Associates presented projected costs for the industrial park road and infrastructure as well as completion of the streetscape project. The Village has sold all but two lots in the industrial park and businesses are wanting to build so the need to get the road and water/sewer in place has become more of a priority.

The estimated project cost for the industrial park is \$990,000. The estimated cost for the streetscape project is \$957,000. The Village plans to seek a loan/grant for both projects from the USDA for financing.

There were several comments and questions regarding the conditions of the local streets in the Village and if there is money set aside for those repairs. There were also questions regarding the grant portion as opposed to the loan portion. The USDA can offer a 30-yr/3.5% rate for the community facilities (street) portion, and a 40-yr/2.75% rate for the water/sewer portion of the project. Public hearing closed at 7:11 p.m.

Council Meeting called to order at 7:12 p.m. by President Getz. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Meeting:

- I. Audience Comments
- II. Reports

A. Village Engineer – After much discussion, we agreed that we need at least go through the application process with the USDA to find out what portion we can get via grant versus loan. The cost of the application doesn't change much for completing all parts of them (water, sewer, community facilities) so it makes sense to do all three of them at once, so we have a real number to look at. A motion was made by Trustee Turney, supported by Trustee Nye to move forward with the required engineering reports to complete the USDA applications for the water, sewer and community facilities. Roll call vote was taken:

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Bob Getz	X		
Mona Himmelein	X		
Steve Jasper		X	
Larry Nye	X		

Ed Rath	X
Milt Sluder	X
Don Turney	X

Motion Carried.

B. Economic Development – n/a

C. Committees – n/a

1. Park – Trustee Nye said there is another dead tree in the park that needs to be removed. He is still waiting for the plaques to be completed by Tigmaster.

2. Finance – n/a

D. Planning Commission – Trustee Rath stated there will be a meeting this month.

E. DDA

III. Unfinished Business

IV. New Business

A. Service Contract for Fire Department – Clerk Boehm was able to reach all the property owners in the industrial park and obtained their permission for the fire department to use the park for parking again this year. A motion was made by Trustee Jasper, supported by Trustee Turney to enter into a service agreement with the Fire Department again this year. All ayes, motion carried.

B. Ott Building – update from Building Inspector – Ross Rogien stated that he has been in touch with the Village attorney with regards to the next steps for the block building in town that is owned by Mr. Ott. Mr. Rogien is still waiting for an engineering report to decide on what needs to happen. The building is unsafe and needs to be taken care of immediately. He has until May 30th to either have it repaired or torn down. He must get a permit and approval from the building inspector before anything moves forward.

C. Tree on Second St. – Mrs. Mach at 8990 Second Street sent pictures to President Getz with regards to her home. She claims it has cracks in the foundation as well as the sidewalk buckling because of the tree that is on the Village’s property in front of her house. She claims the roots are ruining her home. President Getz received an estimate for \$500 to cut it down and grind the stump to the sidewalk.

Trustee Nye stated that there is another tree next to that one and it is rotten inside and needs to come down. After much discussion it was decided that we will wait until next year to replace the 30 feet of sidewalk along Second Street. A motion was made by Trustee Nye, seconded by Trustee Jasper to have Bob’s Tree Service cut down the tree and grind the stump. All ayes, motion carried.

D. DPW request/report – DPW Cochran would like to purchase a landscape rake to make removal of debris from plowing and debris in the park more efficient and thorough. There is a 5’ and 6’ rake, and \$100 price difference. A motion was made by Trustee Nye, seconded by Trustee Jasper to approve the purchase of the 6’ landscape rake. All ayes, motion carried.

DPW Cochran stated they have about 70 meters left to change out before they are all completed. He still hopes to have them finished by the end of May. He said that John Holland from MRWA came down and assisted him with hydrant flushing and valve draining. They have been trying to find all the valves and

making sure they could get a handle on them. Some have been buried in dirt and were asphalted over.

He would also like to request a part time worker to mow and trim again this year. There are many things that have not been done for many years that need to be done (water/sewer requirements). He asked if we could get Duane Davis back to mow in the evenings. The Council agreed we could ask him to come back at same rate.

- E. Roof work/payment – The Township needs to replace the roof on our building. There are several areas that are leaking through. We received 3 different estimates and the cheapest was Mitch Sluder for \$54,700 for metal roof. The Village’s portion would be \$21,880. It does not include gutters/downspouts. It was mentioned that we need to ask the Township about replacing those as well as they are in bad shape. We can pay it all at once or spread it out over 3 years. Motion made by Trustee Jasper, supported by Trustee Rath. All ayes, motion carried.
- F. Escanaba Fund – President Getz read a letter from MML regarding the “big box” store situation that is affecting all municipalities. They are looking for a donation to go toward the legal fund to fight this issue. The Council would like more information before they decide. President Getz will do some more research and bring it back to the Council next month.
- G. Ordinances – General Code – President Getz and Clerk Boehm had a sales representative come to the office to review our current code set up. Our ordinances are very difficult to navigate and cumbersome to use. It would cost us \$1,391 to have them transfer our ordinances from Municode to their platform and \$995 annually to maintain. It is very simple to use, and we have much more usability on our end. After much discussion, a motion was made by Trustee Rath, supported by Trustee Jasper. All ayes, motion carried.
- H. Health insurance renewal – Our current premium is going up approximately 14% this year. Kurt Buursma presented us with several options which were discussed earlier. The best option was Priority Health PPO which would save the Village and employees approximately \$8,000 annually. The new rollover date for HSA funding will be June 1, which is when the insurance renews as well. The Village will fund the difference between the old deductible and the new deductible.

Clerk Boehm stated that if there are gap issues come January 1, 2019 when we would normally reload the HSA, we could look at the employee situation and address it at that time. All the employees agreed to move the rollover date since there was not much of the deductible paid at this time. Trustee Nye made the motion to switch the health insurance plan to Priority Health PPO, supported by Trustee Jasper. All ayes, motion carried.
- V. Consent Agenda - Motion by Trustee Rath, seconded by Trustee Jasper, to approve the consent agenda items as presented. No nays, motion carried.
 - A. Council Minutes – April 2, 2018
 - B. Treasurer’s Report
 - C. Paying of Bills and Transfers
 - D. Correspondence
- VI. Council Comments

- A. President Comments – We had a house in the Village on Cleveland Avenue that had a flooded basement from all the rain and their insurance wouldn't pay because the Village didn't participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. There is no cost for us to participate but must pass a resolution and send in a letter. President Getz would like permission to move forward with it. Council agreed.
- a. The dog park is complete in the Village Park. President Getz would like to thank Larry Martin of Fence Masters for his kind discount of \$460. Part of that was donation and part were the increase of the cost of steel.
- He ordered a dog rules sign. We had the DPW crew padlock the gate until we are ready with the sign and the bags. We also would like to do some landscaping and get a bench for inside. The realtors are supposed to come and give some of their time to assist in the landscaping. There is some concern that the dogs will kill the plants when they pee. We will look at drought resistant plants and place them a little bit away from the fence.
- Trustee Turney would like to name the dog park "The Baroda Bark Park". Once we complete some "aesthetics" then the Realtors Association would like to do a ribbon cutting. The Council agreed to go ahead with some minimal plants for the 3 corners of the fence.
- B. Council Member's Comments

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Recorded by:

Tina Boehm
Village Clerk